

Missouri Business Education
Competencies
(Performance Standards)

Business and Personal Law

Course Rationale: Instruction in this area addresses laws affecting both businesses and families. As laws emanate from different governmental and judicial entities, students must have a basic understanding of law and the foundation of the legal system. The impact of international business and technology has created an additional demand for students to include this course in their academic preparation.

The following suggested competencies, developed by an advisory committee, are intended to serve as a basis for your course curriculum. The list is neither inclusive nor required in its entirety. You may select competencies from other lists, and develop competencies of your own to define the outcomes you expect your students to achieve. The Show-Me Standards identified provide a guide. If activities you choose better aligned with other Standards, you should align your competencies/objectives to those Standards instead of these shown here.

COMPETENCIES		SHOW-ME STANDARDS
A. Examine Foundations of Law		
1.	Explain different ways ethical decisions are made.	CA1, 4.1
2.	Compare and contrast ethics, morals, and law.	CA3, 1.6
3.	Explain why we have laws.	SS1, 4.1
4.	Describe the relationship between historical law and today's law.	SS2, 4.1
5.	Explain sources of law (e.g., institutional, case, statutory, administrative).	SS1, 4.1
6.	Explain the use of the Constitution and Bill of Rights as sources of law.	SS1, 4.1
7.	Match regulatory agencies with their responsibilities.	SS3, 1.6
8.	Explain how government administrative agencies create regulations.	SS3, 4.1
9.	Describe rights and responsibilities of citizens.	CA1, 4.1, 4.3
10.	Compare and contrast the American legal system with systems in other countries.	SS3, 4.1
11.	Identify career opportunities in the legal profession.	CA3, 1.10
B. Explore the Court System		
1.	Compare and contrast federal, state, and local court systems.	SS3, 1.6
2.	Define the concept of jurisdiction.	CA1, 4.1

3.	Explain how jurisdiction applies to the court system.	SS3, 4.1
4.	Compare the role of juvenile court with the role of other courts.	SS3, 1.6

C. Describe Trial Procedures

1.	State an individual's rights if arrested.	CA6, 4.1
2.	List steps in a criminal trial procedure.	CA1, 1.8
3.	List steps in a civil trial procedure.	CA1, 1.8
4.	Explain the rights and responsibilities of the parties in a trial.	CA6, 1.6

D. Investigate Criminal Law

1.	Classify crimes against people, property, government, business, and society.	CA3, 1.6
2.	Differentiate between a misdemeanor and a felony.	CA6, 1.6
3.	Describe elements of a crime.	CA1, 1.6
4.	Explain defenses available to criminal defendants.	CA6, 4.1
5.	Describe punishments associated with crimes.	CA6, 1.6

E. Explore Tort Law

1.	Distinguish between a tort and a crime.	CA6, 1.6
2.	Describe elements of a tort.	CA6, 4.1
3.	Explain types of torts.	CA6, 1.6, 4.1
4.	Compare and contrast negligence, strict liability, and intentional torts.	CA6, 1.6
5.	Describe remedies available in tort law.	CA6, 4.1

F. Examine Contract Law

1.	Describe the elements required for a valid contract.	CA6, 1.6
2.	Explain the nature and importance of a contract.	CA6, 4.1
3.	Differentiate among classes of contracts (e.g., bilateral, unilateral, express, implied, written, oral).	CA6, 1.6
4.	Explain the effects of a breach of contract.	CA1, 1.6, 4.1
5.	Explain situations in which contracts can be avoided (e.g., minors, duress, incompetency).	CA1, 4.1
6.	Explain how offer and acceptance can create contractual rights and duties.	CA1, 1.6, 4.1

G. Discuss Consumer Law

1.	Identify rights and responsibilities of consumers.	CA3, 1.10
2.	Describe laws and agencies that provide consumer protection.	CA6, 1.6
3.	Explain when to apply the law of sales under the Uniform Commercial Code.	CA1, 4.1
4.	Distinguish between a sale of goods and other transactions relating to goods.	CA6, 1.6

5.	Identify the reasons for bankruptcy laws.	CA3, 1.6
6.	Describe characteristics of a bailment.	CA1, 1.6